

STAFF RELATIONSHIPS WITH CLIENTS

To ensure the healthy development of our clients, MercyFirst encourages staff to be involved on a volunteer mentor basis and even as an adoptive resource to certain children. This policy and procedures is outlined in the Family Resources Policy that is in the Appendix.

The Agency prohibits staff from involvement in any social or extracurricular activities with clients, or members of their family, that are separate from those sponsored or sanctioned by the agency or program. Supervisors must be made aware of and give prior approval to any and all activities an employee seeks to participate in that involve client participation.

Staff are never permitted to engage in sex and/or in romantic relationships with a client or former client. Engaging in such behavior is considered abuse and will follow the same procedures as any other abuse allegation.

A violation of this policy is considered unprofessional conduct and is grounds for immediate dismissal or termination of services.